GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1667
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
RUBBERISED ROADS
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rubberized roads using natural rubber are found to be more durable and efficient than other pavements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has plans to encourage natural rubber or other rubber pavements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b) Bitumen modified with natural rubber is reported to have been used on some of the National Highways. The condition of wearing courses such as Bituminous Concrete, Semi Dense Bituminous Concrete and Mixed Seal Surface laid with bitumen modified with natural rubber is reported to be good. The relative performance and economics of wearing courses laid with bitumen modified with natural rubber under variable condition of traffic and climate is yet to be established.

(c) & (d) Indian Roads Congress (IRC) has published guidelines entitled `Guidelines on use of Polymer and Rubber Modified Bitumen in Road Construction` − IRC: SP: 53-2002 and the same has been accepted by the Ministry for adoption. These guidelines inter-alia include natural rubber as modifier along with other modifiers. Use of bitumen modified with natural rubber or other rubber in pavements will depend upon its availability and economics.